

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 08652 161504Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /063 W  
-----170154Z 093460 /65  
R 161209Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4150

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 8652

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: SHUM, IN  
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDIA: DETAINEES

REF: A. NEW DELHI 8417; B. STATE 134678

1. ACCORDING TO A SAMACHAR REPORT, DURING QUESTION HOUR  
IN LOK SABHA JUNE 15, HOME MINISTER CHARAN SINGH GAVE  
THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF STATUS OF DETAINEES IN INDIA:

A. DURING THE EMERGENCY, 29,795 PERSONS WERE  
DETAINED UNDER THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNAL SECURITY ACT  
UNDER SECTION 16-A (THE SECTION ADDED BY EMERGENCY  
DECLARATION). OF THESE, 18,892 WERE RELEASED UP TO MARCH  
1977, AND THE REST RELEASED LATER.

B. DURING THE PERIOD OF THE EMERGENCY, 6,244 PERSONS  
WERE DETAINED UNDER NORMAL PROVISIONS OF MISA, IN ADDI-  
TION TO 6,010 PERSONS ALREADY IN DETENTION ON JUNE 25,  
1975. OF THIS CATEGORY OF THOSE DETAINED UNDER NORMAL  
PROVISIONS, 6,051 WERE STILL IN DETENTION AS OF MARCH  
25, 1977. AS OF JUNE 4, 1,796 REMAINED IN DETENTION.

C. FROM JUNE 25, 1975, TO MARCH 20, 1977, 2,015  
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PERSONS WERE DETAINED UNDER THE CONSERVATION OF FOREIGN  
EXCHANGE AND PREVENTION OF SMUGGLING ACT OF 1974.

D. THERE ARE 62 NAXALITE DETAINED UNDER MISA IN THE  
COUNTRY AT PRESENT, OF WHOM 57 ARE IN WEST BENGAL AND  
FIVE IN TAMIL NADU.

2. THE HOME MINISTER SAID THAT STATE GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEEN ADVISED TO CONSIDER RELEASE OF PERSONS DETAINED UNDER MISA AND ON THIS ADVICE STATE GOVERNMENTS HAVE RELEASED A LARGE NUMBER OF DETAINEES. SAMACHAR REPORTS THAT THE HOME MINISTER ALSO SAID THAT 421 PERSONS HAVE BEEN DETAINED UNDER MISA IN KASHMIR TO MAINTAIN A PROPER ATMOSPHERE FOR THE STATE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. THE MISA, HE REPORTEDLY SAID, HAS BEEN RESORTED TO BECAUSE NO EFFECTIVE ACTION COULD BE TAKEN UNDER ANY OTHER LAW. (SEE ALSO NEW DEHI 8580 WHICH REPORTS CHARAN SINGH'S OTHER COMMENTS ON KASHMIR.)  
GOHEEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DETENTION, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS RELEASE  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 NEW DELHI 8417, 77 STATE 134678  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, PINS, IN  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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